

# Dee-ni' Nu-u-wee-ya'

## SMITH RIVER RANCHERIA TRIBAL NEWSLETTER

Nee-san Num-nii~ma~s (October) 2011 - Volume 18, Issue 10

### STUDENT FOCUS: DEBI BATINI

Debi Batini is a Smith River Rancheria citizen that lives in the wonderful and exciting town of Santa Rosa, CA. She really enjoys living there and has made it her home for the past six years. She enjoys the community and location and remains employed as an Agriculture Science teacher with the Santa Rosa School District at Elsie Allen High School. Before that she worked for one year as a teacher in the Healdsburg High School District. Debi enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, hiking, and going to local festivals.

Debi Batini graduated from Sonoma State University in May, 2010 with a Master's in Education with a concentration in Curriculum, Teaching and Learning and an emphasis in psychology. She has also attended College of the Redwoods and Chico State University. While at Chico State Debi earned a Bachelor's in Agriculture Science with an emphasis in Education and obtained her teaching credential from CSU, Chico.

Debi was teaching full time and attending classes at night in order to earn her M.A. and without the support of her family, friends and coworkers it would have been very difficult. "I am extremely grateful for the scholarship money Smith River Rancheria awarded me." Debi says that without the financial assistance she received from the Tribe it would have been very difficult to afford all the costs associated with going back to school. The biggest roadblock Debi encountered while pursuing her M.A. was working fulltime and taking a fulltime course load. It was difficult at times to balance work and school, and she was thankful she stayed motivated and completed her coursework to earn her degree. She also takes pride in always strives to do her best, and she is extremely proud of her cumulative GPA which was 3.975.

Debi grew up on a small dairy in Arcata, CA. She was a fourth generation dairy farmer on the land that her great-great grandparents bought.



Trip to the Caribbean

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## Free Notary Services for Tribal Members

Call Garrett Campbell at (707) 487-9255, ext. 3103 to schedule an appointment.





# Student Focus, continued

Currently, her parents still own the property and raise dairy replacement heifers on their ranch. Her brother's names are Charley, Jon and Gary. She is the daughter of Gary and DeAnna Batini. Her grandparents on her mother's side are Laurant W. Neal and Beatrice Palmer and on her father's side are Joe and Ann Batini. Her great-grand parents are George W. Neal and Josephine Marie Bonnaz. Her great-great grandparents are Lauren Bonnaz and Flora of Yan-daa-k'vt whom both lived at Mvs-yee-se'-ne.

At the end of her senior year of high school, she was elected to be a State Future Farmers of America (FFA) Secretary. In order to fulfill her duties as the State FFA Secretary for California it was required to postpone attending college for a year after she graduated from high school. During her year as the State FFA Secretary she traveled throughout the state presenting workshops to high school agricultural classes. She attended and presented at numerous leadership conferences and served as an ambassador for the FFA organization and the agriculture industry. After she completed her year of service, she started taking undergraduate classes at College of the Redwoods in order to transfer to Chico State University. As part of her involvement with the FFA, Debi traveled to Germany and Austria on an International Leadership Conference for State FFA Officers. She absolutely enjoyed her trip and learned a lot. One unique thing she learned in Germany was that some of the dairy farmers would attach their milking parlors to the family house so that the cows' body warmth would help heat the house and they would be near for ease of milking.

"As an educator, my personal goal is to not only challenge those students that are already academically successful, but to encourage those having a difficult time." By pursuing her M.A. in Education she wanted to become a more effective teacher and utilize her experiences in the program to create a more conducive learning environment for her students. Ultimately, she would like to be involved in a state's Department of Education focusing on curriculum and instruction development.



Debi isn't a first generation college student. However, she is the first person in her family to obtain a Master's Degree. As for inspiration, there wasn't one specific person that pushed her to seek a higher degree. When she was first exploring the idea of going back to school to get her M.A. she received a lot of support and encouragement from her family, friends and colleagues. However, she was mostly self-motivated to pursue a higher degree. To her, professional educators are individuals who serve as a motivator, supporter, mentor, and are those that genuinely care about another's education and personal welfare. From making one think and act beyond their own personal boundaries and daily routines to creatively teaching the curriculum, every day educators have the opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of many. Ultimately, she decided to pursue her M.A. in Education to continue to grow as an educator and take the experiences she gains throughout the program and apply them in her classroom. Recently, Debi received the 2011 Excellence in Education award sponsored by the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce.

Debi encourages anyone that is considering going to a college, university or vocational program to do it. Furthering your education will open up so many opportunities. "Education is empowering; and at the end of the day no one can ever take your education away from you once you have it." "I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Smith River Rancheria for the generous scholarship that was given to me to assist in furthering my education. I am extremely grateful for the support!"

*Submitted by Lenora Hall, Tribal Council*

## Nee-san Num-nii~ma~s (October) 2011

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## Waa 'Ee-lee-te (Events)

Oct 3	NAGPRA Committee Meeting - 5:00 pm Nii~li~ Me'-ne' in the Lucky 7 Casino
Oct 6	Community Language Class - EVERY THURSDAY - 8:00 pm Taa'-at-dvn Magnet School on Glen Street in Crescent City
Oct 8	Heart Art with Oceana Madrone - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Howonquet Hall Community Center Call Marva at (707) 487-9255, ext. 3170 for more information
Oct 11	Regular Session Tribal Council Meeting - 6:00 pm Howonquet Hall Community Center
Oct 14	Language Committee Meeting - 12:00 pm Nii~li~ Me'-ne' in the Lucky 7 Casino
Oct 14	November Newsletter Deadline
Oct 19	Culture Committee Meeting - 5:00 pm Nii~li~ Me'-ne' in the Lucky 7 Casino
Oct 22	Children's Halloween Party - 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Howonquet Hall Community Center - see back cover
Oct 25	Regular Session Tribal Council Meeting - 6:00 pm Howonquet Hall Community Center

Would you like to receive weekly health tips,  
contests, and life advice right on your cell phone?

**Text "native" to 24587**

*Standard rates apply. It's just like texting your friends and family.*



*Submitted by Denise Padgett, Tribal Council  
Source: WeNative*



**Did you forget your jacket or other clothes  
at Language Camp?**

**Stop by the Tribal Office or  
call (707) 487-9255, ext. 3100**



# 7 Steps to a Healthy Home

*The Seven Steps to a keep a Healthy Home are: 1. Dry, 2. Clean, 3. Well ventilated, 4. Combustion free, 5. Pest free, 6. Toxic chemical free, and 7. Comfortable.*

## Part 6: Toxic Chemical Free

Toxic cleaning compounds, pesticides, oil- or alkyd-based paints and solvents can contaminate the air. Many of the containers these products are stored in slowly release the chemicals into the indoor air. These products should not be stored inside the house. When in doubt, get them out and dispose of them properly. Finally, don't do unusual things indoors like welding or stripping paint from furniture.

*Submitted by Malcolm Champlain, Housing Project Manager  
Source: buildingsource.com*

# Guide to Septic Systems

## PART 3 in a Series of 4: How do I Maintain my Septic System?

### Inspect and pump frequently

You should have a typical septic system inspected at least every 3 years by a professional and your tank pumped as recommended by the inspector (generally every 3 to 5 years). Alternative systems with electrical float switches, pumps, or mechanical components need to be inspected more often, generally once a year. Your service provider should inspect for leaks and look at the scum and sludge layers in your septic tank. If the bottom of the scum layer is within 6 inches of the bottom of the outlet tee or the top of the sludge layer is within 12 inches of the outlet tee, your tank needs to be pumped. Remember to note the sludge and scum levels determined by your service provider in your operation and maintenance records. This information will help you decide how often pumping is necessary. Four major factors influence the frequency of pumping: the number of people in your household, the amount of wastewater generated (based on the number of people in the household and the amount of water used), the volume of solids in the wastewater (for example, using a garbage disposal increases the amount of solids), and septic tank size.

Some makers of septic tank additives claim that their products break down the sludge in septic tanks so the tanks never need to be pumped. Not everyone agrees on the effectiveness of additives. In fact, septic tanks already contain the microbes they need for effective treatment. Periodic pumping is a much better way to ensure that septic systems work properly and provide many years of service. Regardless, every septic tank requires periodic pumping.

In the service report, the pumper should note any repairs completed and whether the tank is in good condition. If the pumper recommends additional repairs he or she can't perform, hire someone to make the repairs as soon as possible.

*Submitted by Andromeda Lopez, Natural Resources Program Technician*

# Native American Congressional Internships

The Udall Foundation provides a ten-week summer internship in Washington, D.C., for Native American and Alaska Native students who wish to learn more about the federal government and issues affecting Indian Country. The internship is fully funded: the Foundation provides round-trip airfare, housing, per diem for food and incidentals, and a stipend at the close of the program.

Interns work in congressional and agency offices where they have opportunities to research legislative issues important to tribal communities, network with key public officials and tribal advocacy groups, experience an insider's view of the federal government, and enhance their understanding of nation-building and tribal self-governance.

In 2012, the Foundation expects to award 12 Internships on the basis of merit to Native Americans and Alaska Natives who:

- Are college juniors or seniors, recent graduates from tribal or four-year colleges, or graduate or law students;
- Have demonstrated an interest in fields related to tribal public policy, such as tribal governance, tribal law, Native American education, Native American health, Native American justice, natural resource protection, cultural preservation and revitalization, and Native American economic development.

### Who Should Apply?

Regardless of field of study, a successful applicant will demonstrate:

- Interest in learning how the federal government "really works;"
- Commitment to his or her tribal community;
- Knowledge of Congressman Udall's legacy with regard to Native Americans;
- Awareness of issues and challenges currently facing Indian Country;
- Strong research and writing skills;
- Organizational abilities and time management skills;
- Maturity, responsibility, and flexibility.

Each applicant must:

- Fall under the Foundation's definition of Native American or Alaska Native\*;
- Be a junior or senior in college, a recent graduate from a tribal or four-year college, or a graduate or law student;
- Have a college grade-point average of at least a "B" or the equivalent;
- Be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent resident.

### If you would like to apply for a Udall Internship:

- Familiarize yourself with the internship's eligibility and selection criteria;
- Download the 2012 Application Materials in Word or PDF: <http://www.udall.gov/OurPrograms/NACInternship/ApplicationMaterials.aspx>
- Be sure all materials, including transcripts and letters of recommendation, are received by the Foundation by the January 31, 2012 deadline.

*Submitted by Dorothy Perry, CFS Director*



# Poison Proof Your Home

Use this guide to poison-proof your home, room by room:



**KITCHEN:** Your kitchen is one of the most dangerous places for a child. Drain openers, detergents, oven cleaners, and other cleaners that can hurt you and your children. Put safety latches on all cabinets and drawers with harmful products. Even better, put these products in a place that children can't reach. Children often get into dangerous products while someone is using them. If you can, keep your children out of the room while you're cleaning.

**BATHROOM:** Things in your medicine chest – like medicine, makeup, mouthwash, first aid supplies, deodorants, and cleaners - can hurt children. Keep these out of their reach. Put a safety latch on your medicine chest.

**BEDROOM:** Keep medicine, medications, perfumes, makeup, and cigarettes out of children's reach.

**LIVING ROOM:** Things to look for in the living room are: liquor, cigarettes, furniture polish, lamp oil and some plants. Keep these out of reach.

**GARAGE, BASEMENT, LAUNDRY ROOM:** These are some of the most dangerous places in your home. There are lots of chemicals and poisons there that can hurt or kill a child: bleach, antifreeze, gasoline, kerosene, car polishes, car batteries, paints, paint removers, mothballs, bug spray, road salt, and much more. It is safest to keep children out of these places altogether.

**Do you know what to do if someone in your home gets poisoned?** If you think someone has been poisoned, *call your local Poison Control Center right away at 1-800-222-1222.* Keep this number next to all your telephones. Make sure you know:

- ✓ Brand name of produce
- ✓ Type of product
- ✓ Contents as listed on label
- ✓ About how much the person ate or drank
- ✓ How the person came in contact with the poison (mouth, skin, etc.)
- ✓ How long the person was in contact with the poison
- ✓ The person's age and weight
- ✓ How you tried to help the person, if you did

MAKE SURE ANY MEDICINE IS STORED IN CHILD-SAFE PACKAGING. BUT REMEMBER, CHILD-SAFE DOESN'T MEAN CHILD-PROOF, SO KEEP MEDICINE OUT OF REACH.

Submitted by Linda Tuttle, Housing Program Specialist



## SMITH RIVER RANCHERIA HOUSING DEPARTMENT RENTAL PROGRAM

**OBJECTIVE:** Housing is a Tribal resource. Preserving that resource, both physically and financially for long-term use and enjoyment by Tribal members, is a prime objective of the Smith River Rancheria Housing Department (SRRHD).

SRRHD will create affordable rental housing options for families, sensitive to their unique and special needs, accommodating a diverse mix of two and three bedroom apartments.

The SRRHD will verify and certify a selected family's income, prior to initial occupancy, to determine eligibility and annually thereafter for use in calculating and adjusting required monthly payments. Reasonable monthly payments will fit a family's ability to pay, based on total household income.

Smith River Rancheria has a project on the drawing board, in the foreseeable future, which will provide multifamily housing using NAHASDA funds and other funds as required. Current NAHASDA median low-income limits are as follows:

Household Size	1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
80%	35,950	41,100	46,200	51,350,	55,450	59,600	63,700,	68,000

**The Housing Department will assist in any way possible to enable you to complete the necessary paperwork.** Please call the SRR Housing Department (707-487-9255 x3140) for an application or ask Program Specialist, Linda Tuttle for assistance.

Submitted by Linda Tuttle, Housing Program Specialist

# Elder Nutrition Program October Menu - UIHS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 Bean & Cheese Burrito	4 Beef & Rice Casserole	5 Chicken Vegetable Soup	6 Liver & Onions	7 Breakfast
10 Chili-Rellanos	11 Chicken 'Ala King	12 Pork 'a Noodle Soup	13 Fish & Chips	14 Stuffed Cabbage
17 Veggie Chili	18 Spaghetti	19 Split Pea Soup	20 Cook's Choice	21 Hot Turkey Sandwich
24 Macaroni Cheese	25 Meatloaf	26 New Soup	27 Stroganoff	28 Salisbury Steak
31 Alfredo Pasta	<div><div>Lunch served @ 12:00 pm Reserve Lunch @ 707.487.4463</div><div>101 Indian Court Smith River, CA 94438</div><div>Tai Chi - Every Wednesday, 11:15 am RepChem 3rd Wednesday @ 12:15 pm</div></div>			

## UIHS Pharmacy “NEW” Refill Request Process

The new automated refill system will allow you to request your refills and choose your pick up location by using a touch-tone phone. When calling the refill line please allow yourself approximately 3-12 minutes (depending on the number of prescriptions you are requesting) to place your refill request. The following is a step by step “How To” of this new system.

***If you do not have your Prescription number(s) you may also leave a voicemail message with your refill request and contact information by selecting option 5 during the main message.***

***Please have your Prescription number(s) readily available before calling.***

1. Call the refill line **(707) 825-5023**
2. Select **"1"** to request refills
3. Using your touchtone phone enter the prescription number followed by the **"#"** pound sign (The prescription number is a **SEVEN** digit number in the left hand corner of the label on your prescription bottle)
4. Verify the prescription number: Press **"1"** if correct - Press **"0"** if not correct
  - a. If your prescription does not have refills remaining please select "1" to "contact the doctor"
  - b. When finished entering all Prescriptions press **"0"** to go to the next step
5. **REPEAT** steps 2-4 for **EACH** prescription you are requesting
6. Enter your phone number with area code followed by the **"#"** sign
7. Verify the phone number: Press **"1"** if correct - Press **"0"** if not correct
8. Select pick up location:

Press 1 – For Arcata Potawot Clinic  
Press 2 – For Smith River Howonquet Clinic  
Press 3 – For Klamath Clinic  
Press 4 – For Fortuna Clinic  
Press 5 – For Weitchpec Clinic  
Press 9 – To repeat pick up locations
9. Verify location: Press **"1"** if correct – Press **"0"** if not correct
10. To leave a voicemail message with your order press **"1"** otherwise press **"0"**
11. To speak to a pharmacy staff member press **"0"** otherwise press **"1"**

Using this new system will be the quickest way to receive your prescriptions. If you have any questions regarding this new process please contact the UIHS pharmacy at (707) 825-5020. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this process.

*Submitted by Denise Padgett, Tribal Council*



# Tribal Community Emergency Response Team Training



## Tribal Community Emergency Response Team "CERT" Training

### Who:

California Tribal Leaders, Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, and Security Officers

### What:

Tribal Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training

### When:

October 26-28, 2011 9am-5pm

### Host:

Smith River Rancheria  
Where: Howonquet Hall  
Community Center at  
101 Indian Court, Smith River,  
CA 95567

### Why:

Learning the basics of disaster preparedness, local volunteer response groups, and supplementing local emergency services during times of disaster.

**Registration Due By  
October 19, 2011**

*Submitted by Tessa Lafazio, Natural  
Resources Program Technician*

## Inter-Tribal Council of California, Inc. **REGISTRATION FORM**



### California Tribal Emergency Management and Homeland Security Project

*Preservation of Life, Land and Culture  
Through Emergency Management*

### Tribal Community Emergency Response Team "CERT" Training

**Dates: October 26-28, 2011 ~ 9am to 5pm**

**Host: Smith River Rancheria**

**Location: Howonquet Hall Community Center  
101 Indian Court – Smith River, CA 95567**

**Registration Due By October 19, 2011**

Name	_____		
Address	_____		
City	State	Zip	_____
Phone	Fax	Email	_____
Tribe/Organization	Title		_____

*Please send Registration Form to: Cassie Leal – Administrative Assistant, ITCC*

*Fax: (916) 973-0117 or Email: [cleal@itccinc.org](mailto:cleal@itccinc.org)*

*Phone: (916) 973-9581*

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# Sheryl's Culture Corner



In 1966, I was twelve years old when our elders began meeting at **K'vsh-chu** *Redwood* Hall every Saturday to teach the 'baby-boom generation' **Nee-dash** *Dance* songs, prayers, our history, and stories. The elders were strict teachers making sure we learned it right. We listened quietly, obeyed their instructions, and practiced while the elders sang, recited prayers, and told age-old stories.

**Dv-laa-ha~** *what's-up? /hello.* **Shxuu-shi' Suu-daa-chu** *my-name-is Suu-daa-chu (no English translation).* My English name is Sheryl Bommelyn Steinruck. I

come from the **Taa-laa-wa** *Tolowa* **Dee-ni'** *'The-People'* village of **Nii~lii~chvn-dvn** *Foot-of-the-riffle-place* along **Nii~li~** *Smith River* in Fort Dick, California. **Nii~lii~chvn-dvn** is a suburb of our *Center-of-the-World*, **Yan'-daa-k'vt.**

My mother is Eunice Henry Bommelyn also known in **Dee-ni'** *'The-People'* **Wee-ya'** *Language*, as **Xash-wee-tes-na** *(no translation)*. And, I am the second-born daughter of four children to the late, James L. Bommelyn. My older sister is Vicki **Luu-kvm-naa-ghe'** *Blue-eyes* Bommelyn and two younger brothers: Loren **Me'-lash-ne** *(no translation)* Bommelyn and William **Xwe'-nee-dvn** *(no translation)* Bommelyn, Sr.

I remember one time after we (the baby-boomers) had been practicing real hard; we were allowed to dance in full ceremonial regalia. The rules we followed were to not look around at the audience or cut-up and to focus our eyes down at a pretend fire in the center of the dance area. I quickly glanced out at the crowd of elders watching our performance and all of the women were crying. Tears were running down their faces. The thought came to me, "Man, we are really going to get in trouble; we made them cry because our performance was so bad." Actually, the tears were tears of joy and gratefulness that we had learned the dance right! They were crying because the last dance they held without reprisal was in 1906.

In 1906, all of our ceremonial regalia had been confiscated during a ceremonial dance and the dance was forbidden until now (1966). The elders were crying with joy and thankfulness for passing on our dance tradition for the generations to come. Thus, the revitalization of our cultural ways began in full force. Also in 1968, we started recording and writing **Dee-ni' Wee-ya'** in the Unifon Alphabet (more about that later).

I became determined to do all I could throughout my life to perpetuate our language, heritage, and culture. At a young age before I ever thought about a man or marriage, I made my mind up that one day when I became a grandmother I would receive my **gvt'lh-de'sr** *"111" tribal tattoo* on my chin. I had grown up all my life learning our history, culture and language and this would be a natural thing for me to do.

Only the women of our tribe received the "111" chin tattoo. Historically, before the coming of the non-Indian in our world, all young girls would get their chin tattoo upon becoming a woman and reaching the age of bearing children. One could tell how wealthy a girl was by her tattoo design. You could tell what village she came from as a grandmother might pass her design onto her daughter which was then passed on from generation to generation. In our tribe, the men did not have their faces tattooed.

All Indian tribal groups tattooed in the states of California, Oregon, the Pacific Northwest, and the Pacific Islands. Some tribes tattooed all or parts of the face and body.

During the 1920s, the state of California made it illegal for Indians to tattoo themselves. Consequentially, my grandmother and her sisters, my mother and her sisters did not get a "111" chin tattoo at the onset of womanhood. When I was a young girl, the only women that had a chin tattoo had been born in the late 1800s or the early 1900s. The women were very old with very wide and dark tattoos. For me, my "111" is an outward expression of my dedication to my language, heritage, and culture.

I got my "111" in October 2006 and my world and life improved and changed for the better. I became an apprentice in the Master-Apprentice Program (MAP) with my mother as the Master in the Smith River Rancheria Culture Department prior to my acceptance and attendance at the University of Oregon in 2009.

In May 2009, the Universe responded and the stars aligned allowing me to attend the University of Oregon Linguistic Department Language Teaching Specialization Master's Degree Program. I am now equipped with knowledge and information to make a difference in perpetuating our heritage language in this generation and for the generations to come. I have learned how to develop curriculum to teach our language and culture to anyone finding it in his or her heart to learn. I am committed to sharing all of my knowledge with anyone. I believe every person with a desire to learn and know his or her language, culture, family genealogy, and **Dee-ni'** history, is a right given to us from **K'wan'-lee-shvm** *God / Creator*.

We hold dance regalia making and basket making classes every week in my home for all to attend. My invitation is open to all. You are welcome to bring unfinished necklaces, dance regalia, basket rattles, etc., to work on. We visit, share stories, sing songs, and speak **Dee-ni' Wee-ya'**, too. My home number is 707-487-2100, if you would like to attend these learning and sharing sessions.

Language Note: **Dee-ni' Wee-ya'** words are typed in **bold** and the *English* translation is typed in *italics* or as *(no translation)*, if applicable.

*Submitted by Sheryl Steinruck, Language Specialist*



# Employee Spotlight



Armando Lopez was born in Ashland, Oregon and raised in Crescent City, where he graduated from high school. He is a Smith River Rancheria Tribal Member and comes from the big Lopez family. Mary Lopez, Armando's grandmother, was a major influence and an important part of his life. Other family members who have been role models for Armando include his mother Robin, his aunt Lynne, and his sister Andromeda. They have taught him to take pride in his family heritage. They are all active with the Rancheria, serving on committees and helping with numerous events.

At the age of 14, Armando traveled to the heart of Mexico with his father. During the two week trip, he met many members of his father's family, and learned about the culture of the Latino side of his family.

Armando is the proud father of two-year old Damien. Armando describes Damien as a "mini me", he loves the outdoors, big trucks, and 4-wheeling with his dad. Besides having fun with Damien, Armando spends much of his free time working on his low-rider car. He also has fun hanging out with friends and working on their cars.

As a teenager, Armando's first job was working for Harbor View Windows/Heating & Air. He then began working in the logging industry, which is what he considers his true profession. Because of his logging experience, it became his main job when he began working for the Smith River Rancheria's Maintenance Department, two years ago. During his time with the Rancheria, Armando has also taken Water Operator Training Classes, which may in the future, lead to a position with the Natural Resources Department.

As for other plans for the future, Armando just wants to "Be happy and live long!"

*Submitted by Debbie Boardman, Receptionist*



Billy Fender was raised in Smith River and graduated from Del Norte High School. He is a Smith River Rancheria Tribal member and comes from the Richards family. His grandparents, Elinor and Floyd Richards Sr., were an important part of his childhood. Billy's grandfather taught him a lot about life.

Billy's first job was as a dishwasher at the Nautical Inn. He also did other restaurant work, including cooking. Billy began working for the Smith River Rancheria 15 years ago. The first 12 years he worked at the Lucky 7 Casino. While there he worked as floor manager, and also worked in security. During his time with the casino, Billy attended Indian Gaming classes at San Diego State. Billy has worked for the Smith River Rancheria's Maintenance Department for the past 3 years.

Billy is the father of two teenage daughters, Sierra, 16, and Alicia, 14. He has been a single parent since the girls were 1 and 3. Billy is proud of his daughters, they help their elders, and are respectful.

In his spare time, Billy likes to work on cars. He also spends a lot of time with his daughters. They like to play video games and to travel with each other. Together they have traveled most of the West Coast, from Canada to Mexico.

Billy is happy where he is, watching his girls grow up, knowing they will do good in life.

*Submitted by Debbie Boardman, Receptionist*

# FACT SHEET: Mercury in Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)

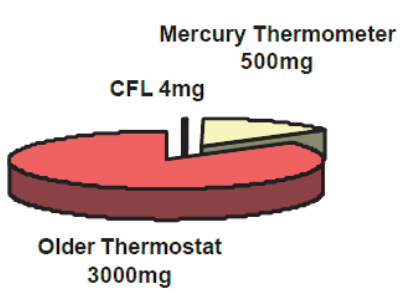
The US Environmental Protection Agency has prepared this fact sheet to respond to questions/ concerns about mercury in energy-efficient lighting that uses compact fluorescent technology.

## What are the Health Risks of Mercury and How do CFLs Fit In?

Mercury is an essential ingredient for most energy-efficient lamps. The amount of mercury in a CFL’s glass tubing is small, about 4mg. However, every product containing mercury should be handled with care. Exposure to mercury, a toxic metal, can affect our brain, spinal cord, kidneys and liver, causing symptoms such as trembling hands, memory loss, and difficulty moving.

As energy -efficient lighting becomes more popular, it is important that we dispose of the products safely and responsibly. Mercury is released into our environment when products with mercury are broken, disposed of improperly, or incinerated. If you break a CFL, clean it up safely. And always dispose of it properly to keep CFLs working *for* the environment.

## Household Mercury Amounts



*Mercury is an ingredient in several household products. Recycling programs exist for mercury in older non-digital thermostats and mercury thermometers, but residential CFL recycling programs are just now appearing.*

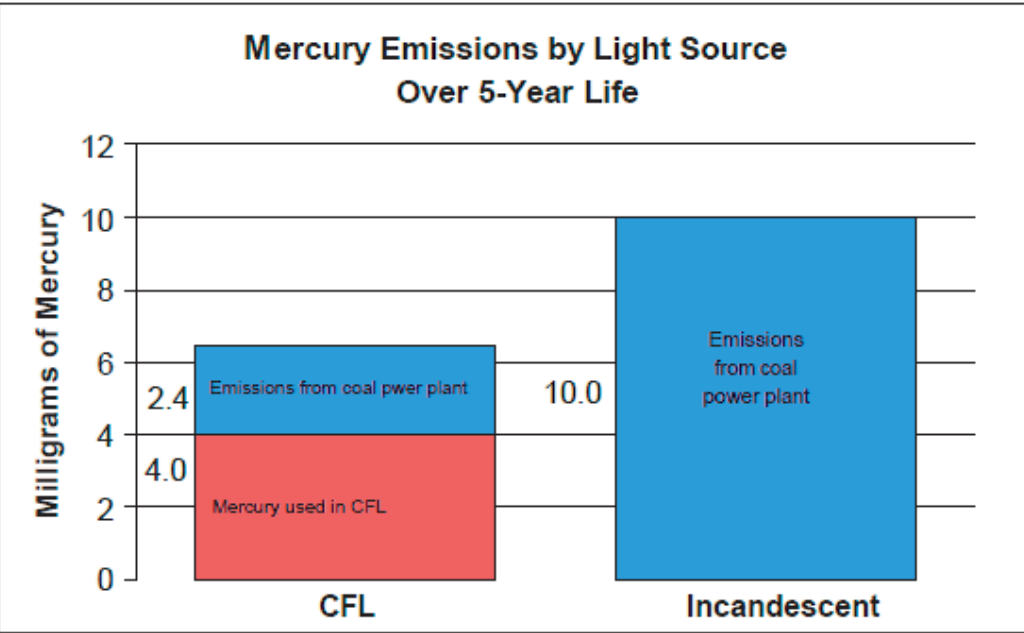
## Always Dispose of Your CFL Properly

While CFLs for your home are not legally considered hazardous waste according to federal solid waste rules, it is still best for the environment to dispose of your CFL properly upon burnout. Only large commercial users of tubular fluorescent lamps are required to recycle. If recycling is not an option in your area (see below on how to find out), place the CFL in a sealed plastic bag and dispose the same way you would batteries, oil-based paint and motor oil at your local Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Site. If your local HHW Collection Site cannot accept CFLs (check Earth911.org to find out), seal the CFL in a plastic bag and place with your regular trash.

**Safe cleanup precautions:** If a CFL breaks in your home, open nearby windows to disperse any vapor that may escape, carefully sweep up the fragments (do *not* use your hands) and wipe the area with a disposable paper towel to remove all glass fragments. Do *not* use a vacuum. Place all fragments in a sealed plastic bag and follow disposal instructions above.

## CFLs Responsible for Less Mercury than Incandescent Light Bulbs

Ironically, CFLs present an opportunity to *prevent* mercury from entering our air, where it most affects our health. The highest source of mercury in our air comes from burning fossil fuels such as coal, the most common fuel used in the U.S. to produce electricity. A CFL uses 75% less energy than an incandescent light bulb and lasts at least 6 times longer. A power plant will emit 10mg of mercury to produce the electricity to run an incandescent bulb compared to only 2.4mg of mercury to run a CFL for the same time.



Source: US EPA, June 2002

## Resources for Recycling or Proper Disposal of CFLs

*NOTE: Residential recycling programs are not yet available in most regions.*

- 1. Earth911.org** (or call **1-800-CLEAN-UP** for an automated hotline): Online, enter your zip code, press “GO,” click “Household Hazardous Waste”, then “fluorescent light bulb disposal.” The site will identify your nearest residential mercury recycling facility or mail disposal method. If you find no specific information on CFL disposal, go back and click on the link for “Mercury Containing Items.”
- 2. Call your local government** if the Web site and Hotline number above does not have your local information. Look on the Internet or in the phone book for your local or municipal government entity responsible for waste collection or household hazardous waste.

*Submitted by Malcolm Champlain, Housing Project Manger*





# Ch'ee-nvk-t'i (Announcements)

## Nee-san Num-nii~ma~s (October) Birthdays

Haley Abbott  
Cort Arlandson  
Edgar Atrian Jr.  
Angel Baca  
Gerald Balcom, Sr.  
Reilly Baltodano  
Alexia Boatsman  
Allen Bommelyn  
Marvin Boom Jr.  
McKayla Bravo  
Richard Brooks  
Jacquelynn Brown  
Monica Calvillo  
Garrett Campbell  
Courtney Chisman  
Ranell Chisman  
Sydney Criteser  
Julia Cutright  
Kelsey Davis  
Michael Dobrec Jr.  
Trent Dobrec  
Colin Ekman  
Robyn Evans  
Noah Ferrer  
Kaitlyn Finigan  
Tamyra Finigan  
Laura Fox  
Randy Franck  
Coleen Frantz  
Makayla Fullam  
Te Naya Fuller  
Autumn Gardner  
Lee Gardner  
Tarysa Geedey  
Charles Gochanour Sr.  
Jacalyn Gorbet  
Jadyn Gorbet  
Loren Gravatt  
Dale Hall II  
Vickie Hall  
Joseph Halverson

Patricia Haney  
Brooke Hodges  
Gabrielle Hodges  
Daniel Honnies  
Tyler Hostler  
Kenneth Hutsell  
Keeanna Idica  
Rachelle Isham  
River James  
Tyler James  
Robert Johnson  
John Jonesburg  
Michelle Keeter  
Brooklyn Kelly  
Dorothy Kendrix  
Deborah Kirby  
Heather Kliever-Turpin  
Keagan Larson  
Ember Leddy  
Reginald Loftin Sr.  
Regin Loftin  
Kerri Lopez  
Ryan Lopez  
Julie Martin  
Donald Maynard III  
Ethan McCallum  
Savanna McGuire  
Sandy Melton  
Deborah Mickelson  
Kayden Mitchell  
Justin Murrell  
Abel Narvaez  
Betty Netcher  
Gregory Netcher  
Jonathan Netcher  
Wesley Netcher  
Amanda O'Connell  
Dee Anna Olson  
Muronica Owen  
Madisyn Pavola  
Derek Payne

Herbert Payne  
Jessica Petty  
Kelly Petty  
Judith Phillips  
Laura Porter  
Jaycob Remington  
Tristan Reynoso  
Brennan Richards  
Eugene Richards  
Jonathan Richards  
Kaiya Richards  
Kevin Richards  
Lisa Richards  
Neena Richards  
Amber Ridders  
Brayden Roberts  
Drew Roberts  
Stephen Rule  
Anthony Salcedo  
Jessica Salmans  
Christopher Samuelsen  
Gregory Samuelsen  
Sri-Nic Sanford  
Marc Schell  
Laurie Schlosser  
Aundriea Seshier-Lindke  
Letty Shapiro  
Kadence Simpson  
Travis Sossaman  
Auryonna Stepro  
Adeline Thomas  
Daniel Thompson  
James Thornton III  
Winona Thornton  
Evan Vickers  
Jonna Weeks  
Aaron Wescovich  
Thomas White  
John Wilber  
Emily Workman Smith



**Kolton Carter Wyland** was born to Dave and Katie Wyland on March 22, 2011. He was 9 lbs, 1 oz and 21.5 inches long. Kolton was a preemie and on oxygen for 6 weeks.



**Paisley Brooke Owen** was born to Wade and Amber Owen on August 26, 2011. She was 8 lbs 9 oz. Paisley joins siblings Kaydence and Layton.



**Tribal members: Would you like to submit your business card?**  
Bring it by the Tribal Office at 140 Rowdy Creek Rd in Smith River,  
mail it, or email it to the editor.





# Ch'ee-nvk-t'i (Announcements)



## Happy 4th Birthday Elora

She's a bundle of sweetness, brightness & fun  
The beauty of springtime, the warmth of the sun  
She's innocence covered with mud, sand, & soot  
She's motherhood dragging a doll by the foot...  
She's a composite picture of giggles & tears  
Of tantrums, excitement, amusement & fears  
A bundle of mischief and often a tease  
A creature of moods not easy to please...  
Who'll capture your heart with her beautiful grin,  
Or chatter and beg until our patience wears thin  
But obedient, naughty, mischievous or coy  
Elora is Mommy's little Monkey & Daddy's Pride & Joy.

*Submitted by Andromeda Lopez*

# HAPPY HALLOWEEN

## Dee-ni' Wee-ya'

*Submitted by Guylish Bommelyn, Language Specialist*



'ak-'aa-muu-t'i



lhin'-chu



me'-tat-na



k'wvt-ch'ee-tr'a~



xee-nvs



srii~-k'ee-naa-t'a

xaa-ts'a'



chvn-xee-nvs



# Native American Rights Widely Abused

A top director of the Amnesty International (AI) has warned that the rights of Native Americans are hugely violated despite international laws protecting the rights of indigenous people.

"The states have acknowledged the preexistence of indigenous people in the American territory, but still their rights continue to be undermined." Executive Director of the Amnesty International's office in Argentina Gabriela Boada told a Press TV correspondent in Buenos Aires on Thursday.

According to the AI, indigenous peoples live in hardship and danger and share common problems related to the protection of their rights throughout the Americas.

As an appalling instance of indigenous peoples' right violation, the international rights body has referred to Alaska Native women being sexually assaulted in the United States.

"These practices are related to violence against women and at the same time ethnic discrimination. The [indigenous] women are raped by people who do not belong to their communities or even by members of the security forces," Boada says.

"Complaints of this kind are very common in the US and also in Canada," she added.

Elsewhere in Argentina, the Toba Qom native community of La Primavera in the North-Eastern province of Formosa has been struggling to protect the land they claim as ancestral territory and, most important of all, the lives of its members.

"Our situation is crucial. We are denied medical assistance; judges do not hear our complaints and we do not have access to drinking water. Even when we try to buy food, traders raise the products' prices," Leader of Aboriginal Community Felix Diaz says.

It is estimated that there are more than 370 million indigenous people in 90 countries around the world.

Meanwhile, the Native Americans have become one of the most vulnerable social groups that simply demand the recognition of their identities and their distinct ways of life.

Marginalization, poverty, disease, violence and, in some cases, extinction, are some of the major risks that indigenous peoples face in America.

Despite some progress made over the past decades, Amnesty International has expressed grave concern over the harsh conditions of native communities and urged regional governments to comply with international human rights commitments.

*Submitted by Marva Scott*

*Source: <http://www.presstv.ir/detail/193593.html>*

## Karuk Tribe to Receive \$1.14 Million for Broadband Access

Less than a month after construction began on Humboldt County's redundant fiber optic line, the Karuk Tribe received the green light on funding for a broadband project of its own.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced Monday that it is awarding the tribe \$1.14 million in an effort to help expand broadband, or high-speed, Internet access to unserved and underserved areas of rural America. The Community Connect grant aims to provide service to 570 tribal members and is one of 23 grants, totaling more than \$103 million, awarded by the department.

Karuk Tribe Information Technology Director Eric Cutright said the tribe is excited about the funding, which will help install a new fiber optic connection and provide wireless Internet to the community.

"My goal is to get service to everyone who wants it," he said. "I think you should be able to live in Orleans and still get the same kind of service available as if you lived in Eureka."

The two-phase project includes installing a new fiber optic cable linking Orleans to the Siskiyou Telephone Co.'s connection in Somes Bar and then distributing the Internet service through wireless technology. Currently, businesses and residents can purchase satellite or dial-up services, while larger organizations like the tribe can purchase a costly T-1 line, Cutright said.

The tribe is working with EnerTribe, a telecommunications consultant and the West Coast affiliate for Native Link Communications, to achieve its goal.

EnerTribe President Forest James, a member of the

Tolowa Tribe of the Smith River Rancheria, said project goals include increasing communications for public safety agencies, telemedicine opportunities and distance learning. The service will first be available to institutions and businesses before expanding to individual members. He said he and tribal representatives will meet soon to discuss the next steps, which may lead to digital phone services.

"We've been extremely excited today," James said on Monday. "It's been a tremendous success. There's a lot of work that went into it, and the tribe has been amazing to work with."

Cutright said one example of adding public safety would be the ability for residents to receive emailed fire alerts. He said fire safety is an important issue for the area, which has a lot of forest fires.

Access Humboldt Director Sean McLaughlin said he is excited about the educational value of increased connectivity and hopes to see the Orleans Community Radio station, KHAA, benefit from the project as well.

"Karuk Tribe's new project will bring broadband service to Orleans and provides a great example of community network deployment to meet local needs," McLaughlin said.

"Access Humboldt supports this project and ongoing efforts to advance broadband adoption with our Generation ZeroDivide project." The project is the second tribal net-

work in Humboldt. The Yurok Tribe was awarded an earlier Community Connect grant to increase Internet access to its reservation.

McLaughlin said the two projects could help connectivity progress in the entire county, with the Yurok Tribe's line running from Crescent City -- which is on the U.S. Highway 101 fiber optic cable -- to Weitchpec and the Karuk Tribe's line essentially connecting Orleans to Yreka. The connection in Yreka links into the Interstate 5 fiber optic cable, which will be the endpoint for the redundant fiber optic cable currently being installed.

McLaughlin said this could be the beginning of two new redundant paths.

*Submitted by Darrell Moorehead, TERO*

*Source: Eureka Times-Standard*





# October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

No matter where you live, there are community events to focus more awareness on domestic violence. Here are some of the events Smith River Rancheria is hosting or taking part in:

- **Cookies for Cops** – On October 6<sup>th</sup> we are participating at Harrington House in honoring those who put themselves in danger to keep survivors safe in a domestic violence situation.
- **Domestic Violence Candlelight Vigil** (and Walk, weather permitting) – October 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m., at Howonquet Community Center. Teri Davis will be our speaker, and there will be prayers for our family and friends. This will be a time of healing for our community, and letting others know **we will not tolerate domestic violence**.
- **Clothesline Project T-Shirt Display** all month in the front windows of the Community and Family Services Office at 110 First St., Smith River, courtesy of North Coast Rape Crisis Team.
- A room available at the CFS office whenever we are open, for women to create their own Clothesline Project t-shirt or quilt squares.
- CFS will also have **purple ribbon pins** available, for you to wear and let the world know you will not tolerate domestic violence.

*Submitted by Judith Burke, Social Worker*



## Domestic Violence is Child Abuse

**October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Please wear a purple ribbon to support the effort to eliminate Domestic Violence from our society.**

**Over 300 Million children** are impacted by Domestic Violence each year. What many people don't realize is that damage caused from domestic violence is much more than skin deep. Children who witness chronic Domestic Violence, even yelling and verbal abuse, show symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or PTSD. PTSD is a mental illness that is mainly seen in war time veterans. Living with Domestic Violence is, in fact, like living in a "War Zone". A child who lives with domestic violence in their home has experienced an Adverse Childhood Event or ACE. There has been much research around ACE's and the long term effects on our children. Children who are exposed to many ACE's have higher cancer rates, cardiac episodes and die at an earlier age. The risk carries on throughout adulthood.

Any action perpetrated by a parent that puts a child at risk of harm is child abuse. It is quite obvious that a child living in a home with chronic Domestic Violence is constantly at risk of harm if not physically, then mentally and emotionally. All states have laws in effect to protect children from physical, mental and emotional abuse, and this includes Domestic Violence. A mother may not leave for herself, but will leave to keep her children safe.

Please help us in our quest to protect our children from the cycle of Domestic Violence. The Community and Family Services Dept. has resources available to assist children and families impacted by domestic violence, but we can't help if we don't know. Please refer any families you know who are struggling with violence in their homes. You can reach our office by phone (707) 487-9255, (707) 218-6005 or email ([paulie.boynton@tolowa.com](mailto:paulie.boynton@tolowa.com))

**If you see something, say something! We can all do our part to prevent child abuse and domestic violence.**

*Submitted by Paulie Boynton, Social Worker*

## As we all know October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month...

**Let's put a new spin on this:**

How about we focus on strengthening, building healthy bonds, and making love last in the relationships that you have. Here are a few ideas:

**Stay involved with each other, spend quality time together, and keep physical intimacy alive.** Some relationships get stuck in peaceful coexistence, but without truly relating to each other and working together, stress may occur. **Example: taking a walk in the Redwoods while holding hands.**

**Keep outside relationships and interests alive.** Expecting too much from one person can put a lot of unhealthy pressure on a relationship. Having friends and outside interests may help keep new ideas and insight flowing to keep it healthy. **Example: going to "Honor the Elders Gathering" with friends.**

**Healthy relationships are built on give and take... Expect the ups and downs and conflict.** You may not always be on the same page, but if you're open to change, and are flexible, it will help you to grow together through both good and bad times. **Example: make extra time for each other just to listen...**

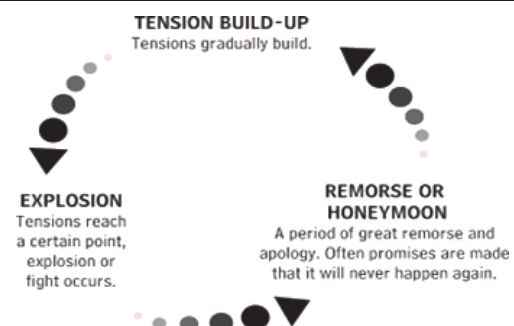
And last but not least: **Communicate, Communicate, and Communicate!!!** Honest direct communication is a key part to a healthy relationship. As long as you can express your need, fears and desires without fear of retaliation, humiliation, degradation, or insisting on being right, you may be able to work through any problems you are facing together. **Example: sitting at the beach having a conversation while enjoying the sun set... Just A Thought**

*Submitted by Rebecca Prows, Social Services Aide*



# Teen Relationship Abuse

It is estimated that abuse is involved in 28% of teen dating relationships. Teen Relationship Abuse and Adult Domestic Violence have some of the same characteristics. They both are based in an increase in controlling behaviors, the abuser uses power and control to keep them in the relationship, the abuse often becomes more severe when the victim tries to end the relationship, and both follow the Cycle of Violence.



There are also some unique characteristics of Teen Relationship Abuse:

- Teens naturally isolate themselves from adults and may believe that spending all your time with your partner is what you do when you are in love.
- Teens lack experience with intimate relationships and may not have information about what makes a relationship healthy. Further, they may have witnessed violence between their parents.
- Teens may believe jealousy and control are signs of love.
- Physical violence happens as often, if not more often, than in adult relationships. The physical violence sometimes turns into "mutual combat" situations.
- Teens are reluctant to seek help because they do not want to put their newly acquired independence at risk.
- There is a great deal of peer pressure to be "with" someone. Being in a relationship gives teens social status.



## Every teenager has certain rights and responsibilities in a dating relationship.

### Your Rights:

To refuse a date without feeling guilty.

- To say no to physical closeness.
- To end a relationship.
- To have an equal relationship.
- To have friends other than your dating partner.
- To participate in activities that do not include your partner.
- To have your own feelings and be able to express them.
- To set limits—to say yes or no as you choose.
- To have your limits, values, feelings and beliefs respected.
- To say "I Love You" without having sex.
- To be heard.
- To be yourself, even if it is different from everyone else or from what others want you to be.

### Your Responsibilities:

- To ask for a date and accept no for an answer.
- To determine your limits and values.
- To respect the limits, values, feelings, and beliefs of others.
- To communicate clearly and honestly.
- To ask for help when you need it.
- To be considerate.
- To check your actions and decisions to determine whether they are good or bad for you.

If your boyfriend or girlfriend has slapped, pushed or threatened you, it is important to take it seriously. It means that they are trying to control you, and there is a good chance it will get worse if you do not do something about it. If you are in an abusive relationship, a good first step is to reach out and get help. Talk to an adult that you trust, contact Community & Family Services at 707-487-2089 or call the **National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline at 1-866-331-9474** or log on to the interactive Website [loveisrespect.org](http://loveisrespect.org).

*Submitted by Gena Grizzard, Social Worker*





**CULTURAL  
MONITORS  
NEEDED!**

Are you interested in working on protecting cultural resources? If you are interested please contact

Suntayea Steinruck  
(707) 487-9255 X 3180  
[sunsteinruck@tolowa.com](mailto:sunsteinruck@tolowa.com)

***The Health and Resource Initiative for Veterans Everywhere (THRIVE)***

An innovative program to provide outreach and services to rural and homeless veterans, THRIVE strives to improve the health and well-being of the veteran community. Our goals are to increase access to health care, establish continuity of care, and return thriving veterans to optimal independent living.

**Why are we doing this focus group study?**

To improve rural health services by direct feedback from veterans.

**Who can participate?**

American Indian Veterans

**Are there any benefits to participation?**

All participants will be compensated for time and travel expenses.

**Where and when will the focus group take place?**

Time and location to be determined based on location of those interested.

**Who is sponsoring this focus group study?**

VA Palo Alto Health Care System in collaboration with Stanford University School of Medicine.

***For more information or to participate please contact:***

**Georgianna Newell,**  
*Focus Group Project Coordinator*

phone: (650) 493-5000 x67627

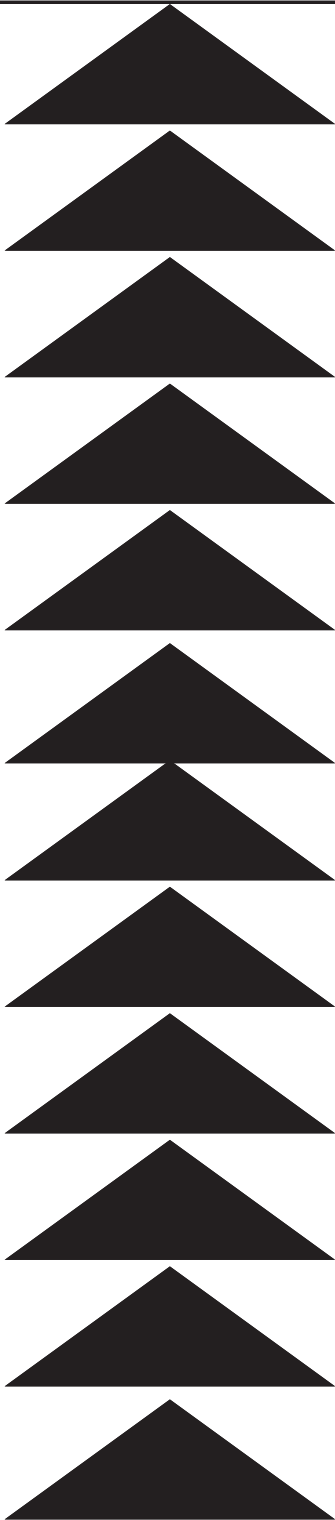
email: [gnewell@stanford.edu](mailto:gnewell@stanford.edu)

**Louis Bickford,**  
Rural Veterans Outreach expert  
Little Shell Band of Chippewa

phone: (209) 878-3369

email: [louieb@wildblue.net](mailto:louieb@wildblue.net)





# Annie's Foods Sustainable Agriculture Scholarship



Sustainable and organic agriculture is at the very root of our philosophy: Planet to Food - Food to People - People to Planet. We believe that healthy soils and healthy farms are the foundation for healthy foods, which help make healthy people! Therefore, we're proud to support the next generation of farmers by offering \$75,000 in funds to students studying sustainable agriculture.

**Eligibility:** Annie's Sustainable Agriculture Scholarship Program is open to full time undergraduate and graduate students beginning or returning to an accredited 2 or 4 year college program, or graduate school in the U.S. for the 2012/2013 school year. Students must be focusing on classes in sustainable agriculture. International students may apply as long as they are studying at a U.S. school.

Annie's accepts applications postmarked between September 1, 2011 and December 15, 2011. If you are chosen to receive an award, you will be notified by April 15, 2012, and funds will be dispersed directly to your school on or around July 15, 2012.

The application consists of two parts; the application and your supporting documents.

1. Official copy of your transcripts
2. Two letters of recommendation from someone who can speak to your commitment to Sustainable Agriculture. These must be from contacts that are **NOT** related to you. Letters should be in a sealed envelope, and the writer should sign the seal.

Please compile your transcripts and two letters of recommendation, and mail them to:

Annie's Scholarship Committee  
1610 5th Street  
Berkeley, CA 94710

NOTE: To minimize paper use, Annie's does not send scholarship applications or information via mail; the application is only available through their website:

<http://www.annies.com/doing-good>

*Submitted by Dorothy Perry, CFS Director*

The Karuk People's Center  
Presents

## Fall 2011 Karuk Basketweavers Gathering

October 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>

Friday 5 p.m. / Saturday all day / Sunday breakfast

*Ayukii,  
chimi nuvik. káru vúra xára nuvíikeesh. vaa vúra  
nanu'áraara kúupha. hitíhaan vaa nukúupheesh. kári  
xas koovúra nu'ítap pa'áraara kúupha. vaa káru  
koovúra pa'áraaras kunkúupheesh. xas pukára vúra  
pipshinváriveeshara. tákoo.*

*Let's weave soon. And we will weave for a long time.  
That is our Indian way. We will always do this. And  
let's all learn our Indian ways. That way all our  
Indians will do that way. And nobody will forget.  
That's all. yóotva yóotva*



**BINGO FRIDAY NIGHT / RAFFLE SATURDAY NIGHT!**

Karuk Tribal Complex, Happy Camp, CA  
For more information contact Hélène Rouvier at  
530-493-1600 #2202

For registration forms online go to <http://www.karuk.us>

## 26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CALIFORNIA INDIAN CONFERENCE

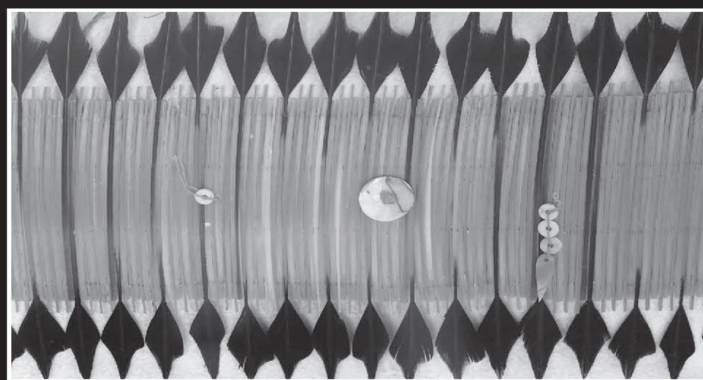


Photo Credit: Jeff Fisher  
Mechoopda Ceremonial Headdress

**OCTOBER 27–30, 2011 • CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO**

## 26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CALIFORNIA INDIAN CONFERENCE

“Sustaining the Circle of Knowledge”

**OCTOBER 27–30, 2011**

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO**

For additional information, contact:

• Amy Huberland | [ahuberland@csuchico.edu](mailto:ahuberland@csuchico.edu) | 530-898-5438

Online at:

• [rce.csuchico.edu/conferences/2011-california-indian-conference](http://rce.csuchico.edu/conferences/2011-california-indian-conference)

CENTER FOR  
REGIONAL AND  
CONTINUING  
EDUCATION  
CALIFORNIA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
**CHICO**  
RESEARCH FOUNDATION

# Native American Women Find Cultural Ground in US Military

Continued from August 2011 issue:

## SERVING THE COUNTRY

Almost 2 million women are now enlisted in the U.S. armed forces. Native American women comprise about 18,000 of those spots.

“That may sound small, but when you look at the population, that’s actually pretty high,” said Connie Moffitt, the minorities’ veterans’ coordinator at the Black Hills VA Center.

The high rate of Native women enlistment translates into intricate motives that can’t be reduced to a simplified list.

“It’s a really complex issue because there are lots of layers and motivation for Native American service,” said Loew, who spent three years producing her documentary exploring Native service.

Many native women sign up to get an education, escape tough times on the reservation, see the world or to make a positive impact in communities.

For Jan Malcom, a member of the Oneida Nation in Wisconsin, enlisting in the U.S. Army provided the opportunity to see a world she’d only read about.

“When I was studying history in high school, I just loved the cobblestone streets, the old European countryside and buildings and everything else, and I thought, ‘I want to get over there someday,’” Malcom said.

In 1965, after enlisting in the Women’s Army Corp, the then 18-year-old spent two years stationed in Mons, Belgium, working as a communication specialist, decoding messages from around the world.

And when she could, she traveled. She visited the streets of London, the Tulip Festival in Holland, the Black Forest in Germany. And she saw Paris.

Although Stacey Stabler, of the Omaha Nation, enlisted in the Army Guard when she was 17, she knew she wanted to enlist when she was 8. And when she was 17, she needed both of her parents’ signatures.

“They were actually ecstatic by that because...they saw...a way of improving yourself and your life, so it was really important for me to do that,” Stabler said.

Darla Black, an Oglala Lakota and U.S. Army veteran, wanted to prove her uncles wrong.

When she approached them about joining the Army, “They said, ‘No – a woman’s place is at home.’ And I decided to prove them wrong. They were wrong,” said Black, who enlisted in the Army in 1980 and transferred to the National Guard as a supply specialist. Black also wanted to hop on a plane to escape the Pine Ridge Reservation and have an opportunity to get an education.

With fresh wounds from her father’s death and the dream of an education, Jendry felt the pull of family ties.

Her mother served for four years as a lab technician in Wash-

ington, D.C., at Fort Reed Army Medical Center during Vietnam. “I felt a really strong desire just to follow in her footsteps as a woman warrior,” Jendry said.

Meanwhile, Linda Robinson of the Omaha Nation enlisted in 1968 with the Women’s Army Corp. After a childhood speckled with her dad’s WW II stories, the 18-year-old woman wanted to be a part of that tradition.

“I couldn’t see why a Native woman couldn’t do the same thing and serve her country.”

## STRUGGLING AGAINST TOUGH ODDS

Before a Native American woman is even born, statistics are stacked against her. At some point in her life, numbers say one in three Native women will be sexually harassed or assaulted – a rate 2.5 times greater than the overall population, according to a report compiled by the Indian Health Service.

And that’s before she enters the military.

“Being a woman and being in the military is not like being a man and being in the military,” said Amy Vannatter, the women veterans’ program manager at the Black Hills VA Center. Women not only have a higher chance of experiencing sexual trauma before serving, but also during, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

It is with this weight Native American women enter the armed forces, where almost a quarter of all women experience sexual assault, and more than half encounter sexual harassment. When paired with the high probability that they’ve already experienced sexual trauma prior to enlisting, it bodes ill for many Native women.

“The double whammy for Native women is not only did they maybe see their buddy get blown up from an IED, but they may have been sexually assaulted or harassed at the same time,” said Dr. Sally Weyer, who does outpatient treatment for veterans on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Beyond sexual harassment, some Native women found that simply being a woman discredited them in men’s eyes.

“The male soldiers did not want us there,” said Stabler, who enlisted in January 1994. “They made it plain and simple and told us, ‘Hey, you do not belong here.’ They did not help us. We had to help ourselves.”

The struggles don’t end as soon as a woman’s service or tour or basic training camp is over.

Stabler’s been in the Army for 15 years, and she hasn’t yet received an eagle feather from the Omaha Nation. The eagle feather is a grand symbolic gesture – recognition of a warrior who has sacrificed something to defend the people.

## Part III in next issue

Submitted by *Suntayea Steinruck, THPO*  
Source: <http://cojmc.unl.edu/native-daughters-warriors/native-american-women-find-cultural-grounding-in-u-s-military>

## CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

If you live in Del Norte or Curry County and need help paying for child care while you work or go to school, Smith River Rancheria Community and Family Services may be able to help.

We are currently accepting applications for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP); a federally funded program administered by Smith River Rancheria.

The CCAP provides a subsidy to help families pay for licensed child care in a child care center or family day care home. Families who qualify for CCAP pay a nominal share of their total monthly child care expenses.

To request an application or more information, please contact Leann Babcock at 707-487-9255 ext 3131.

*Submitted by Leann Babcock, CFS Program Technician*

## ATTENTION DEE-NI’ SPEAKERS

If you know the Tolowa Language, or just a few words, please contact Loren Bommelyn to be interviewed and recorded (707) 218-7068



# October



## VACATION ON US!

Weekly Drawings on Sundays  
thru November 1 to 3pm

Grand Prize Drawing  
November 27th at 3pm

Choose from 5  
Exciting Destinations!



### 11-11-11

Random CASH Drawings!  
Nov. 11, 2011 - Friday - 1 to 8pm  
Every 11 minutes!!



## Acoustic Christmas with Pam Tillis

December 10th - 7pm

Tickets go on sale this month - \$25



*Lucky Lady*

Fridays 10am to 5pm  
Every 20 Minutes  
Random Drawings  
For Cash!!

**LUCKY  
7  
CASINO**

Hwy 101 - Smith River, CA

**707-487-7777**

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**ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS**  
We do not have addresses for:

Michael Austin  
Jon Batini  
John Bravo III  
Meagan Bravo  
Jimmie Coenen  
Madison Coenen  
Lacey Hackett  
Maile Horn  
Christina Kliever  
Contessa Kliever-Kerr  
Monica Livingston  
Colette Niles  
Maggie O'Brian  
Brayden Roberts  
Dana Shade  
Lisa Sopiwnik  
Ivory Willburn  
Kaiyess Willburn  
Kiyawna Willburn

Please call the Enrollment Office to  
**update your address**  
(707) 487-9255 ext. 3120

Or send mail to:  
Smith River Rancheria  
Attn: Enrollment Department  
140 Rowdy Creek  
Smith River CA, 95567

### Fun Fact:

The first newsletter created by the Smith River Rancheria  
was called the 'Howonquet News' and it was printed in  
December of 1993.

## CONNECT WITH US!

[www.tolowa-nsn.gov](http://www.tolowa-nsn.gov)

for news and announcements

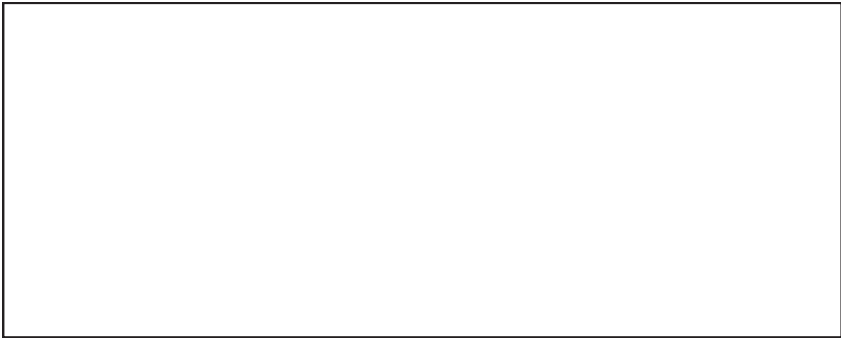


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*Submitted by Katrina Upton*



Smith River Rancheria  
140 Rowdy Creek Rd  
Smith River, CA 95567

Presorted  
First Class  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Smith River, CA  
Permit NO. 4

# Children's Halloween Party

**Date:** Saturday, October 22, 2011  
**Time:** 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
**Location:** Howonquet Hall Community Center  
101 Indian Court  
Smith River, CA



**Activities, games, prizes, and fun!**  
**Costumes welcome!**

For more information, call the Tribal Office  
at (707) 487-9255